Devotional from <u>Matthew Ch. 4 vs. 1-13</u>
By: Bro Danny McGouirk

<u>"It is written"</u>
This is what we consider the beginning of our Lord's Ministry, and we could look into this and ponder this thought, but not at this time.
What we will look into is the <u>Temptation of Christ and on this wise:</u>
After his baptism He was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. <u>(vs. 1).</u>
The devil tempted our Lord with three distinct temptations:
(vs. 2 & 3) The temptation of the lust of the flesh.
(vs. 5 & 6) The temptation of pride of life.
(vs. 8 & 9) The temptation of the lust of the eyes.
Now this brings to mind:
<u>Heb Ch 4 vs. 15.</u>
"For we have not an high priest that cannot be touched with the feelings of our infirmities, but who in **<u>all points</u>** was tempted like as we are **<u>Yet without sin!</u>**
He was tempted on the mountain of temptation in every way you or I are tempted in our everyday life.....**but without sin**.
And He accomplished this simply by quoting the written Word that we have at our very fingertips, if we so choose.

Christ did not accuse Satan of being the deceiver or the father of lies, nor did He berate him for his hatred of all that pertains to God. He simply reminded Satan of what the Word of God says—
His reply was **"It is written, it is written, and it is written"**
These replies came from the book of Deuteronomy. Notice also that Satan knows the written word for he used **Psalms Ch 91 vs. 11 & 12 in vs. 10!**
So with these thoughts in mind I stop and ponder on this question: "**Why was it written"**
Why would God in His Sovereignty move upon Holy men to pen down the words we know as **THE HOLY BIBLE?**
Sometimes when everything is going well, we find praise and jubilation in reading the scriptures.
But when crises arise in our lives, the written word of God becomes a living inspiration and comfort to us.
But to find the real reason for His giving us the written word we must look into the scriptures themselves.
Psalms 119 vs. 130
The entrance of thy words giveth light (Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path). It giveth understanding to the simple!
The written Word is settled **(Psalms Ch 119 vs. 89)** and it is eternal **(1st Peter Ch 1 vs. 25)**.

It is written to give us hope. **(Rom Ch 15 vs. 4)**
Whatsoever things were written aforetimes were written for our learning that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.
Paul said "if in this life only I had hope; I would of all men be most miserable!"
It is a saving hope **(Rom Ch 8 vs. 24)**.
It is an abiding hope **(1st Cor Ch 13 vs. 13).**
Not only is it written to give hope but also to give knowledge of eternal life **(1st John Ch 5 vs. 13)** and to be read in the congregation **(Neh Ch 13 vs. 1)**

1. It is written to profit believers **(2nd Tim Ch 3 vs. 16)**
2. It is written for purification. **(Psalms Ch 119 vs. 9)**
3. It is written to pacify. **(Jer Ch 15 vs. 16)**
4. It is written to perfect. **(1st Pet Ch 1 vs. 22 & John Ch 17 vs. 17).**
5. It is written to protect. **(Eph Ch 6 vs. 10-18 & Heb Ch 4 vs. 12).**

So God, in all His divine wisdom, moved upon holy men and they penned down the Words of God that we would have all we need to bring us unto a right standing with Him!
Amen